

**To:** Card, Joan[Card.Joan@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa[Mcclain-Vanderpool.Lisa@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Faulk, Libby[Faulk.Libby@epa.gov]; Myers, Craig[Myers.Craig@epa.gov]; Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**From:** Purchia, Liz  
**Sent:** Sun 8/9/2015 8:44:19 PM  
**Subject:** Re: ACTION: Review Statement/Announcement to be emailed to media with photos from flyover and link to data hopefully before the media call. (Will also vocus to media lists)

Are we able to get this out in the next few minutes? David Gray and Kelly Zito should take a quick look.

Let's be sure to include the overarching messaging about our outreach from yesterday.

EPA is working closely with first responders and local and state officials to ensure the safety of citizens to water contaminated by the spill. The agency has activated its Emergency Operations System to ensure coordination among its regions, laboratories and national program offices in Washington DC. EPA is closely coordinating with the officials in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Southern Ute Tribe and Navajo Nation. EPA is taking the lead on efforts to contain the leak and flow from the mine is now controlled. EPA has also deployed federal On-Scene Coordinators and other technicians in Colorado, New Mexico and Navajo Nation to assist with preparations and first response activities in these jurisdictions. EPA is sharing information as quickly as possible with the community as experts work to analyze any effects the spill may have on drinking water and public health. EPA is scheduling regular updates on the response for the public, elected officials and the media.

---

**From:** Card, Joan

**Sent:** Sunday, August 9, 2015 4:30 PM  
**To:** Purchia, Liz  
**Cc:** McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa; Smith, Paula; Faulk, Libby; Myers, Craig; Ostrander, David  
**Subject:** Re: ACTION: Review Statement/Announcement to be emailed to media with photos from flyover and link to data hopefully before the media call. (Will also vocus to media lists)

No conclusions on human health as of now. I'd like to move before that. Agree we should add R6 and R9 update of can do as soon as possible.

Joan Card  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Region 8

Sent from my EPA iPhone

On Aug 9, 2015, at 1:01 PM, Purchia, Liz <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)> wrote:

Can we include any conclusions or analysis that we can draw from the data that was posted today?

Also, could we include the status updates from R6 and R9 that David and Kelly shared?

---

**From:** McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 9, 2015 2:58 PM  
**To:** Card, Joan; Purchia, Liz; Smith, Paula; Faulk, Libby; Myers, Craig; Ostrander, David  
**Subject:** ACTION: Review Statement/Announcement to be emailed to media with photos from flyover and link to data hopefully before the media call. (Will also vocus to media lists)

This morning, EPA's ASPECT (Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology) flyover observed that the conditions from Farmington to Durango show much improvement. While the River remains discolored, a leading edge of the contaminant plume is no longer visible. These visual observations are a useful indicator, however, water quality data will provide the definitive information about river conditions.

Water quality data continues to be collected and evaluated. This morning EPA released a detailed data table of the sampling in Cement Creek and the upper portions of the Animas River from August 5, the date of the incident, and August 6.

EPA expects to have new data from August 7 which is currently undergoing review and will be available to the public later today. We acknowledge frustration with the turnaround time for this information. Collection, transport and lab analysis of metals in water is complex and time consuming. Workers at the lab and data experts are working continuously to develop the information.

The data table contains a list of analyzed constituents, largely metals, and their numeric value in micrograms per liter, which is equal to parts per billion, or ppb.

The data table released today will include updates to the information released by EPA on August 7. The incident, which occurred on August 5, caused an increase in concentrations of total and dissolved metals as the contaminated mine water moved downstream. These concentrations began to trend toward pre-event conditions by August 6. August 7 and 8 data, when it is available, will inform whether the trend towards pre-event conditions continues.

Link to data table: <http://epaosc.org/goldkingmine> (under "documents")

Lisa McClain-Vanderpool  
Public Affairs Specialist/Media Officer  
Office of Communications and Public Involvement  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
Office 303.312.6077  
Cell 303.501.4027